



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

documents that may be wanted by the Commissioners for the purpose of facilitating the objects of their appointment; and that the Librarian shall cause such endorsement to be made on the documents as shall secure their possession to the Society.\*

*Voted*, That the President be authorized to express to Mr. Schoolcraft the willingness of the Society to receive his essay on the Chipewewa language on the terms proposed in his letter; viz., to be published in the Society's Collections, Mr. Schoolcraft to be furnished with fifty copies in a pamphlet form, and to retain the property of the memoir.†

Señor Manuel Lorenzo Vidaurré, Mr. Gallatin, and Mr. Timothy Flint, of Cincinnati, were nominated Corresponding Members of the Society. Hon. Nathan Dane, William B. Sprague, D.D., of West Springfield, and Joseph Willard, Esq., of Lancaster, were nominated by the Standing Committee Resident Members.

Meeting dissolved. ‡

#### QUARTERLY MEETING, JANUARY 29, 1829.

There not being a quorum present, the meeting was adjourned to Thursday, the 19th of February, at twelve o'clock.

for the return of the maps and books which the circumstances of the case will justify.

"I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

"LEVI LINCOLN.

"To the Hon. Judge DAVIS,

President of the Massachusetts Historical Society."

EDS.

\* In the margin, against this vote, is written in red ink, "See *post*, April 1835, May 1835, July 1840, October 1840, April 1841, July 1841, August 1841, October 1841, December 1841, February 1842, June 1852." — EDS.

† Mr. Schoolcraft's paper was not printed in the Society's Collections. — EDS.

‡ John Mellen, elected a Resident Member in October, 1792, died Sept. 19, 1828. A memoir of him by the Rev. William Newell, D.D., will be found in this volume on pp. 420, 421. — EDS.

## ADJOURNED MEETING.

At a meeting of the Society, Feb. 19, 1829,—the members present were, Bradford, Coffin, Davis, Harris, Jenks, Lowell, Pierce, Savage, and Snow.

The transactions of the last meeting were read.

Several communications were read by the Librarian, accompanying books and documents presented to the Society.

*Voted*, That the Librarian be authorized to loan to Mr. George W. Brimmer the portrait of Governor Hutchinson in the possession of the Society, that a copy may be taken for a relative in England.\*

*Voted*, That the Recording Secretary be requested to write to each of the members of the Publishing Committee, stating it as the wish of the Society that the volume now in preparation be published before the next meeting, or that a report be made by the Committee at that meeting of the reasons for the delay.†

---

\* This portrait of Governor Hutchinson is supposed to be painted by Copley, and is described in a list of his works printed by our associate, Mr. A. T. Perkins, in a book entitled "Sketch of the Life and some of the Works of J. S. Copley," 1873, at pp. 76, 77. It seems from a record made on p. 101 of the present volume that the Society came into possession of the portrait in 1796, but we do not learn from what source.

The portrait was engraved in 1847, and the engraving copyrighted by Nathaniel Dearborn, according to an inscription upon it, as published in a volume called "Boston Notions," Boston, 1848, p. 263. Yet the portrait was issued in the October number of the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register" for 1847, and those copies were inscribed as engraved for that periodical. Some years later, this portrait was inserted in some copies of Drake's "History of Boston."

Mention is made in the English "Notes and Queries" for Jan. 16, 1869, of a portrait of Governor Hutchinson in the State House of Massachusetts, but no portrait of Governor Hutchinson hangs there. The Society possesses also another portrait of Governor Hutchinson, signed "Edward Truman, pinx., 1741," presented by Peter Wainwright, Jun., Esq., in September, 1835. See these Proceedings under that date.—Eds.

† The volume then in preparation (Vol. II., third series) was not published till about January of the following year, 1830. The Society were naturally impatient for a new volume, as the previous volume bore date 1825.—Eds.

*Voted*, That Mr. Savage be requested to write to Mr. John Farmer to procure a work entitled the "New England's Salamander" for the Society on the most favorable terms.\*

*Voted*, That it be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to publish after each meeting a list of the donations and of the persons elected members at that meeting.

Señor VIDAURRE, Mr. GALLATIN, and Mr. FLINT were elected Corresponding Members. NATHAN DANE, LL.D., WILLIAM B. SPRAGUE, D.D.,† and JOSEPH WILLARD, Esq., Resident Members of the Society.

Professor C. C. Rafn, Ph.D., of Copenhagen, and Chevalier Pedersen, Minister from Denmark, were nominated Corresponding Members.

Meeting dissolved.

---

#### ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1829.

At a meeting of the Society, April 30, 1829, — the members present were, Holmes, Jenks, Lowell, Nichols, Palfrey, Pierce, Quincy, Ripley, Savage, R. Webster, and Winthrop.

The officers of the last year were re-elected. Mr. NICHOLS and Mr. WEBSTER, the Scrutinizing Committee.

Professor RAFN and Chevalier PEDERSEN were elected Corresponding Members. Mr. NICHOLS and Mr. RIPLEY, Scrutinizing Committee.

The Committee for the publication of the second volume, third series, did not make a report, as they had been requested to do.

---

\* This book was printed in the volume of Collections issued in 1830. — Eds.

† Dr. Sprague declined membership. — Eds.

Mr. NICHOLS, a member of that Committee, stated that he had some time since prepared the article assigned him, and that he would do all in his power to effect the publication of a volume forthwith.\*

Mr. WEBSTER and Mr. NICHOLS were appointed a committee to examine the Treasurer's accounts, and made the following report, viz. : —

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, a Committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society appointed to examine the accounts of James Savage, Treasurer of said Society, have this day performed the service, and report that the accounts are well kept, sufficiently vouched, and correctly cast, and that the balance in favor of the Society remaining in his hands, including two notes of Phelps & Farnham for seventy-seven dollars seventy-seven cents, which were exhibited to us, amounts to fifty-one dollars seventy-four cents.†

(Signed) REDFORD WEBSTER.  
BENJ. R. NICHOLS.

April 30, 1829.

*Voted*, To suspend the operation of the vote relative to the publication of donations and the names of members elected till the meeting next after the publication of the volume now in the press.

The Corresponding Secretary made the usual communications.

*Voted*, That the Committee appointed at the annual meeting in April, 1827, be authorized to consider of any project for obtaining a more safe and commodious room for the Society; and, whenever

---

\* The article prepared by Mr. Nichols was a very valuable account of the Plymouth Colony Records. — Eds.

† The receipts amounted to \$119.13, of which sum \$52 were for assessments, \$60 for sales of books, and \$7.13 for interest on one of three notes of Phelps & Farnham, given in May, 1826, and entered as cash at that time. The final payment on these notes was not made until 1839. The payments for the year amounted to \$250.17, and included \$220.25 for printing and \$22.45 for binding. — Eds.

prepared to report on any encouraging result, that the Recording Secretary be directed to call a special meeting of the Society on request of the Chairman; and that said Committee be enlarged by the addition of Mr. Nichols and Mr. Savage.

Meeting dissolved.\*

[Two Resident Members died during the past year, — John Mellen and Aaron Dexter, — memoirs of whom, not having before appeared in the Society's volumes, here follow. — EDS.]

*Notice of Rev. John Mellen.*

The Rev. John Mellen, son of Rev. John Mellen, of Stirling, was born July 8, 1752, graduated at Harvard College in 1770, and was Tutor in that institution from 1780 to 1783. In 1783, he was ordained as pastor of the East Congregational Church in Barnstable. His ministry of seventeen years was a happy and successful one, and he won the entire esteem and affection of his people. But, in 1800, on account of his wife's ill health in Barnstable, he resigned his ministerial charge, and removed with his family to Cambridge, where he spent the remainder of his days. In 1806, he was appointed by the College Corporation to what was then regarded as an important and honorable office, as one of the managers of the Harvard College Lottery (granted that year by the General Court on a memorial from the Corporation), from the proceeds of which Holworthy Hall was erected, in 1811, at an expense of \$24,500, as Stoughton Hall had been a few years before by a previous lottery, similarly granted. Many years before his death, his sight began to fail, and he at length became totally blind. But he bore the trial with

---

\* Dr. Aaron Dexter, elected a member in May, 1792, died Feb. 28, 1829. A memoir of him by Mr. C. C. Smith will be found on pp. 421-423 of this volume. — EDS.

admirable cheerfulness and equanimity, and still charmed the circle of his friends by the agreeableness of his conversation, the sweetness of his temper, and the courtesy of his manners. He died Sept. 19, 1828, aged seventy-six, beloved and venerated by all who knew him.

During his ministry at Barnstable, several of his discourses were published,—the Election Sermon in 1797, a funeral sermon on the death of Mrs. Sarah Alden in 1797, the Dudleyan Lecture in 1799, and a funeral sermon on the death of Judge Daniel Davis, of Barnstable, in 1799, from a part of the text in Daniel vi. 3, “This Daniel was preferred, because an excellent spirit was in him”; besides a sermon on the death of I. Dunster in 1791, a masonic discourse in 1793, a Thanksgiving sermon in 1794 and in 1795, and a dedication sermon in the same year. These discourses, though neither profound nor brilliant, are well suited to the occasions on which they were delivered, and are marked by clear thought, just views, and a pure and perspicuous style.

Mr. Mellen was a brother of Chief-Justice Prentiss Mellen, of Portland, and one of his daughters, Catharine, was married to Professor Levi Frisbie, of Harvard University, and, some years after his death, to James Hayward, Esq., the engineer.

W. N.

### *Notice of Aaron Dexter, M.D.*

Aaron Dexter was the son of Richard and Rebecca (Peabody) Dexter, and was born at Malden, Nov. 11, 1750. His earliest American ancestor was Richard Dexter, admitted a townsman of Boston in 1642, whose estate in Charlestown, on the Mystic side, descended through five generations. The Hon. Samuel Dexter, of Dedham, a Senator from Massachusetts in the Congress of the United States, Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury in the administration of John Adams, was from the same stock. Aaron Dexter's father was

a farmer, in prosperous circumstances, and, like many of his contemporaries, was desirous of giving to one of his sons a liberal education. The subject of this memoir accordingly entered Harvard College at an age considerably above that at which boys then went to Cambridge. He was graduated in 1776. After leaving college, he studied medicine with Dr. Samuel Danforth, and during the Revolution he made several voyages as ship's surgeon. In one of these he was captured by the British, and carried into Halifax. He suffered great hardships while a prisoner, but was finally exchanged; and, near the close of the war, he established himself as a physician in Boston, where he soon gained a distinguished rank in his profession.

In 1783, he was appointed Professor of Chemistry and Materia Medica in Harvard College; and this office he held until 1816, when he resigned, and the duties of the professorship were divided. In 1787, he was married to Rebecca, daughter of Thomas Amory, of Boston. In 1792, he was chosen a member of the Historical Society,—one of the first six members added after the organization of the Society; and he was one of the Publishing Committee for the third volume of Collections. He was also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and for many years an officer of the Massachusetts Medical Society, the Agricultural Society, and the Humane Society. Of the last two societies he was for several years President. His interest, however, was not confined to literary, charitable, or professional objects, and he was one of the early advocates for the construction of the Middlesex Canal and of Craigie's Bridge, and he was President of the Canal corporation. At the time of Shays's rebellion, he was an active supporter of the Government, and went on the winter campaign which crushed the insurrection. He had an inherited taste for agriculture, and owned an extensive farm in Chelsea, which was afterward sold to the United States for the erection of a Marine Hospital. His



social habits are shown by his connection with the Wednesday Evening Club, of which he was one of the earliest members, and with the Anthology Club, to whose active interest in literature the foundation of the Boston Athenæum and the establishment of the North American Review are traced. He died at Cambridge, Feb. 28, 1829, honored alike as a chemist, a physician, and a citizen. It is believed that Dr. Dexter's only publications were two papers contributed to the Transactions of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

C. C. S.

---

#### QUARTERLY MEETING.

Aug. 25, 1829. The Society met and adjourned, without doing business, to Sept. 1, 1829.

---

#### ADJOURNED MEETING.

At a meeting of the Historical Society, Sept. 1, 1829, —

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Society be given to Judge Haliburton, of Nova Scotia, for his History of Nova Scotia, and to Dr. Hosack, of New York, for his Memoir of De Witt Clinton.

*Voted*, That John Lowell, Esq., be requested to prepare a memoir of the Hon. D. A. Tyng, and the President a memoir of Samuel Davis, Esq., for the Collections.\*

---

\* Dudley Atkins Tyng, elected a member in April, 1793, died Aug. 1, 1829. Mr. Lowell's memoir of him is in 3 Collections, II. 280-295.

Samuel Davis, elected a member in January, 1812, died July 10, 1829. A brief sketch of him by an unknown hand, but probably by that of Nahum Mitchell, is in 3 Collections, V. 253-255. — EDS.

Thomas C. Haliburton, Esq., of Nova Scotia, was nominated a Corresponding Member by Dr. Webster; Washington Irving, Esq., by Mr. Savage; and James Grahame, Esq., by the President.

Meeting dissolved.

---

#### QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Historical Society, Oct. 29, 1829, — the members present were, Bowdoin, Bradford, Davis, Hale, Jenks, Lowell, Merrill, Prince, Ripley, Savage, Snow, R. Webster, Willard, and Worcester.

The transactions of the last meeting were read.

THOMAS C. HALIBURTON, Esq., of Nova Scotia, WASHINGTON IRVING, Esq., and JAMES GRAHAME, Esq., were elected Corresponding Members.

Mr. MERRILL and Mr. RIPLEY were the Scrutinizing Committee.

*Voted*, That Mr. Sparks be allowed to take from the Library such a number of books as he may need for the objects he has in view, at the discretion of the Librarian.

Mr. HALE, Dr. HARRIS, Dr. SNOW, and Mr. BOWDOIN were chosen a committee for the publication of the third volume of the third series.

Dr. SNOW was chosen a member of the Committee for preparing the index to the third series, in the place of Mr. Spooner, deceased.\*

---

\* "See April, 1823, first appointment; and see July, 1836." Marginal note. — Eds.

D. B. Warden, Esq., was nominated a Corresponding Member by Dr. Harris.

A letter from Professor Rafn was read, acknowledging his receipt of the certificate of his election, and returning his thanks for the honor.\*

---

QUARTERLY MEETING, JANUARY, 1830.

At a meeting of the Historical Society, Jan. 28, 1830,—the members present were, Bowdoin, Davis, Gardner, Harris, Holmes, Lowell, Ripley, Savage, Snow, and R. Webster.

Transactions read.

Mr. WARDEN was elected a Corresponding Member.

Mr. RIPLEY and Dr. SNOW, the Scrutinizing Committee.

*Voted*, That the Librarian be authorized to deliver to any booksellers in Boston and Cambridge copies of any volume of the Society's Collections, to be sold for the Society, at a commission not exceeding ten per cent on the receipts.

---

\* The following is Professor Rafn's letter of acceptance:—

"COPENHAGEN, 4th June, 1829.

"SIR,—I beg leave to request that you will convey to the President and members of the Massachusetts Historical Society my respectful acknowledgments for the honor which they have conferred upon me.

"Be pleased to accept of my thanks for your kindness in communicating to me the agreeable intelligence.

"My work, 'Antiquitates Americanæ,' of which I shall have the honor to send to the Society a copy when it is ready, I am now come so far with that I, in some weeks, intend to begin with the printing, as likewise the finishing of the map of the old North America, according to the old Icelanders' informations.

"Believe me to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"C. C. RAFN.

"To the Rev. CHARLES LOWELL, D.D., Secretary,  
Massachusetts Historical Society," &c.

Eds.